January 15, 2025

The Honorable John Boozman Chair, Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Amy Klobuchar Ranking Member, Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

## Dear Chairman Boozman and Ranking Member Klobuchar:

We write in support of Brooke Leslie Rollins' nomination to be the 33<sup>rd</sup> Secretary of Agriculture. We represent farmers, ranchers, growers, hunters, forest owners, conservationists, cooperatives, state departments of agriculture, renewable fuel producers and agribusinesses nationwide —encompassing all aspects of American agriculture, food, nutrition and rural America — and we look forward to Ms. Rollins' strong leadership at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Ms. Rollins has been engaged in American agriculture since an early age, baling hay and raising livestock in Glen Rose, Texas. Rollins spent summers working on her family's farm in Minnesota and participated in all levels of 4-H and FFA. She continues to raise livestock today and is now passing her passion for agriculture on to her children, who are also involved in FFA and showing steers. Rollins' strong foundational knowledge of agriculture also extends to her formal education, attending Texas A&M, where she received her Bachelor of Science in agricultural development on scholarship.

Throughout her career, she has brought the perspectives of the American farmer and rancher to her work. She served as deputy general counsel and policy director for former Texas Governor Rick Perry, where together they advanced many agricultural priorities. She also championed rural priorities across the federal government as President Trump's former Director of the United States Domestic Policy Council.

In addition, her experience as an executive, building and running two large public policy organizations, has prepared her to provide effective executive leadership for USDA's important, wide-ranging activities and large workforce. Her close working relationship with incoming President Trump will ensure that agriculture and rural America have a prominent and influential voice at the table when critical decisions are made in the White House.

It is important for Congress to act on Agriculture Secretary-designate Rollins' nomination in light of the many difficulties facing America's farmers and rural America. We need her leadership now at USDA to advocate for a new farm bill, stabilize an agricultural economy in decline, support the full food and agriculture and forestry value chain, and continue American agriculture's long history of providing the most secure, affordable and nutritious food supply in the world. USDA has the power to help turn things around with strong leadership. We look forward to Agriculture Secretary-designate Rollins bringing her unique experience and capabilities to tackle the challenges facing agriculture and rural America once confirmed.

As such, we urge your Committee and the entire U.S. Senate to promptly confirm Ms. Rollins as the next Secretary of Agriculture. Thank you for your consideration, and for your dedication to our nation's agricultural community.

Sincerely,

Agriculture Retailers Association

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Feed Industry Association

American Seed Trade Association

American Soybean Association

American Sugarbeet Growers Association

CropLife America

Farm Credit Council

International Fresh Produce Association

Meat Institute

National Association of Conservation Districts

National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

National Association of Wheat Growers

National Corn Growers Association

National Cotton Council

National Council of Farmer Cooperatives

National Farmers Union

National Grain and Feed Association

National Milk Producers Federation

National Pork Producers Council

National Sorghum Producers

The Fertilizer Institute

**USA Rice** 

21st Century Equipment, LLC

Adam Farms LTD

Adams Land & Cattle

Agribusiness Association of Iowa

Agribusiness Council of Indiana

Agricultural Council of Arkansas

Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas

Alabama Agribusiness Council

Alabama Farmers Federation

Almond Alliance

American Association of Crop Insurers

American Beekeeping Federation

American Forest Foundation (AFF)

American Frozen Food Institute

American Fruit & Vegetable Coalition

American Livestock Markets and Dealers Association

American Meat Science Association

American Pistachio Growers

American Pulse Association

American Sheep Industry Association

American Sugar Alliance

American Sugar Cane League

American Wood Council

Animal Health Institute

Applewood Seed Co.

**Archery Trade Association** 

Arizona Dairy Producers Trade Association

Arkansas Farm Bureau

Arkansas Rice

Arkansas Soybean Association

Associated Milk Producers Inc. (AMPI)

Associated Oregon Hazelnut Industries

Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO)

Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Bayer

**Brownsville Irrigation District** 

California Ag Irrigation Association

California Alfalfa and Forage Association

California Association of Wheat Growers

California Association of Winegrape Growers

California Bean Shippers Association

California Cherry Growers and Industry Association

California Citrus Mutual

California Dairies, Inc.

California Date Commission

California Farm Bureau

California Grain and Feed Association

California Pacific Seed Association

California Pear Growers

California Pork Producers Association

California Poultry Federation

California Prune Board

California Rice Commission

California Seed Association

California State Floral Association

California Sweetpotato Council

California Warehouse Association

California Wool Growers Association

Cayuga Milk Ingredients

CEA Alliance

Central Valley Ag Cooperative

ClearPath Action

Colorado Dairy Farmers

Colorado Farm Bureau

Colorado Pork Producers Council

Colorado Potato Administrative Committee

Colorado Wool Growers Association

Connealy Angus

Connecticut Farm Bureau Association

Cooperative Milk Producers Association

Corn Refiners Association

Corteva Agriscience

Cotton Warehouse Association of America

Council of Producers & Distributors of Agrotechnology

Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau

Crop Insurance Professionals Association

Dairy Farmers of America

Dairy Producers of New Mexico

Dairy Producers of Utah

Dallas Safari Club

Danielski Farms

Delaware Farm Bureau

Delta Waterfowl

Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S.

**DNA** Genetics

**Ducks Unlimited** 

Edge Dairy Farmer Cooperative

**Empire State Forest Products Association** 

emPower Rural America

**Equine Sports Council** 

Farm Journal Foundation

FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative

First District Association

Florida Citrus Mutual

Florida Farm Bureau Federation

Florida Fertilizer & Agrichemical Association

Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association

Florida Rice Growers

Florida Strawberry Growers Association

Florida Sugar Cane League

FMI - The Food Industry Association

Foremost Farms USA

Forest Landowners Association

Forest Resources Association

Fresh Produce Association of the Americas

Georgia Agribusiness Council

Georgia Farm Bureau Federation

Georgia Milk Producers, Inc.

Georgia/Florida Soybean Association

Global Cold Chain Alliance

GO Seed

Gowan SeedTech LLC

Grain and Feed Association of Illinois

Gro Alliance

GROWMARK, Inc.

Growth Energy

Hawaii Farm Bureau

Houston Safari Club

Idaho Dairymen's Association, Inc.

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

Idaho Grain Producers Association

**Idaho Potato Commission** 

Idaho Wool Growers Association

IL Corn Growers Association

Illinois Farm Bureau

Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association

Illinois Milk Producers Association

Illinois Pork Producers Association

Illinois Seed Trade Association, Inc.

Illinois Soybean Association

Imperial Beef LLC

Inari

**Independent Bakers Association** 

Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas

Indiana Corn Growers Association

Indiana Ethanol Producers Association

Indiana Farm Bureau

Indiana Sheep Association

Indiana Soybean Alliance

International Dairy Foods Association

International Wood Products Association

Iowa Farm Bureau

Iowa Pork Producers Association

Iowa Soybean Association

Iowa State Dairy Association

JE Meuret Grain Co. Inc.

JSMM Farms

Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association

Kansas Dairy Association

Kansas Farm Bureau

Kansas Grain and Feed Association

Kansas Livestock Association

Kansas Sorghum Producers

Kansas Soybean Association

Kentucky Dairy Development Council

Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation

Land O'Lakes, Inc.

Latham Hi-Tech Seeds

Livestock Marketing Association

Livestock Marketing Association of Texas

Louisiana Agricultural Consultants Association

Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation

Louisiana Forestry Association

Louisiana Independent Rice Producers Association

Louisiana Rice Producer Group

Maine Potato Board

Maine Sheep Breeders Association

Maola Local Dairies

Maryland Farm Bureau

Maryland Sheep Breeders Association

Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation

Massachusetts Forest Alliance

MayerSeedline, LLC

Michigan Agri-Business Association

Michigan Bean Shippers

Michigan Corn Growers Association

Michigan Farm Bureau

Michigan Milk Producers Association

Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association

Michigan Pork Producers Association

Michigan Sheep Producers Association

Michigan Soybean Association

Mid Atlantic Soybean Association

Midwest Council on Agriculture

Midwest Dairy Coalition

Midwest Dry Bean Coalition

Midwest Food Products Association

Milk Producers Council

Minnesota AgriGrowth

Minnesota Corn Growers Association

Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation

Minnesota Lamb & Wool Producers Association

Minnesota Soybean Growers Association

Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation

Mississippi Land Bank, ACA

Mississippi Rice Council

Mississippi River Trust

Mississippi Soybean Association

Missouri Corn Growers Association

Missouri Farm Bureau

Missouri Pork Association

Missouri Rice Council

Missouri Soybean Association

Montana Agricultural Business Association

Montana Farm Bureau Federation

Montana Grain Growers Association

Montana Wool Growers Association

Mount Joy Farmers Cooperative Association

National All-Jersey

National Association of FSA County Office Employees

National Barley Growers Association

National Bobwhite & Grassland Initiative Foundation

National Chicken Council

National Cotton Ginners Association

National Farmers Union

National Fisheries Institute

National Grocers Association

National Lamb Feeders Association

National Oilseed Processors Association

National Peach Council

National Pecan Federation

National Pest Management Association (NPMA)

National Potato Council

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

National Seasoning Manufacturers Association

National Sunflower Association

National Thoroughbred Racing Association

National Turkey Federation

National Wild Turkey Federation

NC Agribusiness Council

NCA - The National Confectioners Association

Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation

Nebraska Pork Producers Association

Nebraska Soybean Association

Nebraska State Dairy Association

Nevada Farm Bureau Federation

New Jersey Farm Bureau

New York Corn & Soybean Growers Association

New York Farm Bureau

North American Blueberry Council

North American Coalition for Insect Agriculture

North American Export Grain Association

North American Falconers Association

North American Grouse Partnership

North American Millers' Association

North American Renderers Association

North Carolina Farm Bureau

North Carolina Potato Association

North Dakota Corn Growers Association

North Dakota Grain Growers Association

North Dakota Soybean Growers Association

Northeast Agribusiness and Feed Alliance

Northeast Dairy Producers Association

Northland Potato Growers Association

Northwest Dairy Association

Northwest Horticultural Council

Nutrien

NYS Agribusiness Association

NYS Maple Producers' Association

Ohio AgriBusiness Association

Ohio Dairy Producers Association

Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Ohio Pest Management Association

Ohio Pork Council

Ohio Sheep Improvement Association

Ohio Soybean Association

Oklahoma Farm Bureau

Oregon Dairy Farmers Association

Oregon Farm Bureau

Oregon Feed & Grain Association

Oregon Hop Growers Association

Oregon Pork Producers Association

Oregon Seed Council

Oregon Women for Agriculture

Pacific Egg and Poultry Association

Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Pennsylvania Sheep and Wool Growers Association

Pheasants Forever

Pillen Family Farms

Pivot Bio

Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

Plant Based Products Council

Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc

Prairie Farms Dairy

Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania

Quail Forever

Red Angus Association of America

Renew Kansas Biofuels Association

Renewable Fuels Association

Renewable Fuels Nebraska

Rhode Island Farm Bureau Federation

Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association

Rural Investment to Protect our Environment (RIPE)

Safari Club International

Sharp and Sharp Certified Seed

**SNAC International** 

Snake River Sugarbeet Growers Association

Society of American Florists

South Carolina Corn and Soybean Association

South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation

South Carolina Sheep Industry Association

South Dakota Ethanol

South Dakota Pork Producers Council

South Dakota Sheep Growers Association

South Dakota Soybean Association

South East Dairy Farmers Association

South Texas Cotton & Grain Association

Southeast Milk, Inc.

Southeastern Food Processors Association

Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association

Southern Crop Production Association

Southern Seed Association

Southwest Council of Agribusiness

Southwest Meat Association

Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance

**Summit Seed Coatings** 

Sweetener Users Association

Tennessee Dairy Producers Association

Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation

Tennessee Feed & Grain Assn

Tennessee Pork Producers Assn

Tennessee Sheep Producers Association

Tennessee Soybean Association

Texas Ag Industries Association

Texas Agricultural Aviation Association

Texas Association of Dairymen

Texas Cattle Feeders Association

Texas Citrus Mutual

**Texas Corn Producers Association** 

Texas Cotton Ginners' Association

Texas Farm Bureau

Texas FFA Association

**Texas Forestry Association** 

Texas Grain and Feed Association

**Texas Grain Sorghum Association** 

**Texas Hemp Coalition** 

Texas Independent Ginners Association

Texas International Produce Association

**Texas Irrigation Council** 

**Texas Irrigation Panel** 

**Texas Pecan Growers Association** 

Texas Pork Producers Association

**Texas Poultry Federation** 

Texas Rice Council

Texas Rice Producers Legislative Group

Texas Seed Trade Association

Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers' Association

Texas Soybean Association

Texas Vegetable Association

Texas Vegetation Management Association

Texas Watermelon Association

**Texas Wheat Producers Association** 

The Center for Dairy Excellence

The Conservation Fund

The Meat Sheep Alliance of Florida

The Poultry Federation

The Texas Cotton Association

The Utah Wool Growers Association

Thomas Family Farms, Inc.

Thomas Livestock Co Inc

Tillamook County Creamery Association

TN Feed & Grain Association

U.S. Apple Association

U.S. Beet Sugar Association

U.S. Canola Association

U.S. Custom Harvesters, Inc.

U.S. Hemp Roundtable

U.S. Pea and Lentil Trade Association

U.S. Peanut Federation

United Dairy Farmers of Florida

United Dairymen of Arizona

United Egg Association

United Egg Producers

Upstate Niagara Cooperative, Inc.

US Conference on Irrigation and Drainage

**US Dairy Export Council** 

US Dry Bean Council

US Rice Producers Association

**US Sweet Potato Council** 

USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council

USA Poultry & Egg Export Council

Vermont Dairy Producers Alliance

Virginia Farm Bureau

Virginia State Dairymen's Association

Walnut Council

Washington Apple Commission

Washington State Dairy Federation

Washington State Fruit Commission

Washington State Potato Commission

Washington State Tree Fruit Association

Western Peanut Growers Association

Western Pulse Growers Association

Western States Dairy Producers Association

Weyerhaeuser

Wildlife Mississippi
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association
Wisconsin Farm Bureau
Wisconsin Pork Association
Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association
Wisconsin Soybean Association
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation
Wyoming Pork Producers
Wyoming Wool Growers Association

cc: Honorable John Thune Honorable Charles E. Schumer